

Alaska

or

Bust

---

6-9-97

6-9-97

Mon.

10 AM → Got a late start.  
Drove 375 Miles, stopped  
at K.O.A. Near Columbus, Ohio  
Saw wild Turkey standing  
in grassplot near Cumberland.  
Hunted for 20 years in woods  
& never saw one. One long  
stretch about eight miles we  
saw fourteen deer. All  
roadkills. One was a nice  
Buck in Velvet. Sorry  
we couldn't stop  
for the 'Pack' 7:40 P.M.  
now. Got here at 6 o'clock

James E. Jr.



June 10<sup>th</sup>. Tues

Left Columbus Ohio about 7 AM  
I think we drove about 150 miles.  
The sun was shining everything  
'Great'. We saw a Doe standing  
on the right sholder of the road  
& he couldn't make up his mind  
for a few seconds, but lucky for  
him & us he ran into the woods  
It was rolling about 60 so I  
could not have missed him. About  
10:15 all the wheels came off?  
That's just an expresion.

We pulled off the road for a bath  
room call & Marge noticed  
~~the wrong~~ something wrong with  
the front of trailer on the right  
front. The trailer was coming  
apart. I knew it was serious  
I was prepared for everything but  
this. Anyway we even thought  
about trading the trailer but  
we couldn't get a good used  
one & a new one was out  
of the question. So we looked  
it over & decided we could  
fix it. We found a Walmart  
bought a calking gun &  
caulk. Some 4" angle  
brackets & went to work  
on it. We caulked it  
& got two brackets on



## Trailer

then. The Thunder & Lightning  
hit. Were in ~~the~~ now  
& its pouring but were safe  
& dry & the trailers dry. We  
drove  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Ohio all of  
Indiana & half of Illinois  
About 420 miles but we  
lost about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs on  
the trailer. ~~All~~ Plus  
about a ~~few~~ mile rolling  
back up while they were  
cutting the grass along  
the highway. Twenty of ten  
getting a little tired. Well  
see what tomorrow brings

Bud's Father



6-11-97 Wed

8:40 Now. Talked to Allen & Sharon, <sup>tried</sup> ~~tried~~ to call Jimmy but no answer. Left Ill. about 7:00 this morning drove about an hour & it was still 7:00. I didn't know we had a time change. The day went pretty good just one small problem, the gray water tank was full & wouldn't empty but we handled it. Illinois is full of pig farms & all the little pigs had their own little doors. (Cute huh). Saw 12 live deer & one or two road kills I know if you saw one. You saw, Never mind... Marge dozed about three minutes all day. Not many S. Grand mothers could do that. Drove 522 miles, have to admit right now its about my limit See Ya.

Sioux City S. Dakota

Jim Marty



Camp 4

9:30 at home

Thurs June 12 - 7:30 PM

Left about 7 this morning. Got here about 6:30. We are some. ~~ware~~ in ~~the~~ Wyoming. The car & Trailer ran great, doesn't sound like a big deal but when you're rolling 65 MPH most of the day you don't want no trouble. I stopped on Rt 90 where there was a 75 mile speed limit. And 18 Wheeler was laying on its side in the grass plot facing us. A car was stopped in the other lane & a guy was looking from his car. I didn't know if the guy was still pinned in the cab or not. I knew I would have to get him out if I could, but when I got to the cab the guy came over & told me they already took him away. He didn't know how he was & he was watching the load. I rode 552 miles & I feel pretty good. Well well we'll see what tomorrow brings. You never know.

Everett Sr.



June - Fri the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Well: left Gillette WY about 6:30 AM... 460 miles later we are in Butte Montana. I got to tell about the worlds longest coal train. Its pulled by five Diesel engines & they pull one hundred & twenty five coal cars 6,900 feet long. Thats about a mile & a quarter. We saw most of it going through the mountains. They also had a Biker convention & they took over the whole highway. & all traffic had to stop. Over 10,000 bikes we saw a few hundred. Saw 100 antelopes two or three ~~together~~ together 4 mule deer. one road kill in velvet. one prairie dog. No speed limits in Montana - except slow down to 65 after dark. Stopped in Whitall & filmed old cars for Richard. ~~He~~ He orders parts from him. Should Be in Alberta Canada tomorrow evening.

Margy's Boy



Camp 6

Sat. Night June 14-97

I oftened wonderd what the poor people, did on a Sat night  
Now I know. We are in  
Alberta Canada. Came 472 miles  
today. Started off thick Fog  
& cold, had to turn the heater  
on. Came across <sup>another</sup> ~~1/8~~ wheeler on  
its side, didn't look good for  
the driver. Hope she survived. We  
are in Calgary now. It has to be  
twice the size of Balto. Its very  
confusing at first. Everything is in  
Kilometers, The road sign said  
Speed limit 100., but thats  
62 MPH. It keeps you thinking  
of the money - forget it. We had  
a head wind for about 150 miles  
I couldnt get over 50 MPH  
wide open. I must have pushed  
the floor board in. Im looking  
out the window now & the sun  
is finally leaving 10:03 You  
guys ~~&~~ probably sleeping.  
~~father~~ See ya

Pa Pa



Camp 7

Sunday Night - June 15

8:45 P.M. Left Calgary about 7  
this morning, wind still blowing.  
About ten miles out we came  
across a pick up truck ~~had~~ had a  
trailer on back. ~~He~~ rolled over  
& was back on his wheels. A  
car was also involved. He  
was on his side & the people  
looked ok, so we slowed up &  
kept on going. Had another time  
change. Would like to sleep but  
the sun is shining in my eyes.  
Should be tired, drove 550  
miles. I think you forget how  
big the U.S. & Canada is. I see  
why people fly out & then rent  
a car. We averaged 477 miles  
a day for a week. We are  
at the beginning. Dawson Creek  
The Army Corp of Engineers built & cut  
their way through the Youcan. in ten  
months. 1375 miles. We saw our  
first Moose. We saw Male deer yes.  
terday & today 9 o'clock here. Midnight  
in Balto. A guy & his kids  
were broke down 50 miles from now  
I got him going ok. I guess that's why  
we got the last campsite right on the  
end. I guess it don't hurt to help  
sombody sometime.

Good Samaritan Jimmy



Camp 8

June 16 - Mon Night 8:40 PM

Well we are in a Provincial Park on Summit lake. I'm charging a Video Batt from my Car Inverter. 12 Volts to 110. Had a little battery problem, but OK now. The day started off bad, Blew left rear tire on Van at 65 mph. I changed in & we were on our way.

Small stuff: Came across a dead horse & a mule deer.

Looks like it just happened

Saw one Coy two Moose

Four black Bears & one Grizzly

We got two Bears on tape

one Black Bear about 500 lbs

& the Grizzly about 700. Didn't

drive to far today 350 miles

Were 3800 miles from home

No two days are alike, You don't  
no what's around the next curve

Marge is a real trooper. She

already has written down what

we might see tomorrow. We'll

see, We'll see

Jimmy - The  
Driving Fool



June 17 Tues Night 7:30

Of the good the bad & the Ugly'  
Followed a Water sprinkler truck  
over a eight mile detour. Mud  
Mud Mud. You ought to see the  
trail & Van. I taped it. Trailer  
door window coming out, but  
we fixed it. Stopped at Bank  
in city & changed some Traveler  
checks over to money. We were  
getting ripped off. OK Now. Saw  
two more Black Bears & one  
about two hundred lbs a Brown  
Bear. Three Moose. No tire  
trouble today. I have 422 miles  
4,147 miles from home. Also  
two Caribou. We pulled over  
to let some guys go by. Marge  
said what's that on the hill.  
About a block away: When he  
started to walk we could see the  
spiral horns. A Doll sheep about  
300 lbs. Got him on tape. Got  
here about 6:00 p.m. Getting  
tired. Got the next to last  
campsite. 'Oh Yea' at Watson  
Lake. They have over 30,000  
signs in the center of town. Got  
it on tape.

Van Driver



June 18

camp 10

Wed Night 8:35 I think:

Marge called Sharon about 5:45  
9:45 Home time. No car problems.  
Drove like a champ: 451 miles  
We averaged 4.55 a day for ten  
days, I think: Saw two wolves  
taped one. Big Moose in water, Taped  
him. God knows how many miles  
of Detours & mud. I wouldn't  
recomend any average person to pull  
a trailer from Barter to Fairbanks  
Alaska & back. Might have bit off  
a little more than I can chew. I was  
ok with the mud but Marge couldn't  
camp until we washed the Van  
& trailer. Alaska the biggest state  
in the Union & the speed limit is 55  
Montana 75. Got to find a  
Barber tomorrow. Don't get me  
wrong, 'Hell or High Water' Were going  
all the way to Dead Horse & put  
my hand in the Arctic Ocean

Jim Martin Jr



Fairbanks camp 11 Midnight  
at home

Thurs 19th. June 8:00 PM

Left Tok. Alaska this morning about 7 AM. No Van or trailer problems. Will probably change left front trailer tire before going to Anchorage. Was new when we left Balto. Small alignment problem. ('Small'). Have six spares altogether for Van & Trailer. Used three. Didn't drive very far today, about 275. Were 4,800 miles from home. The sign said Moose in area. About a mile down the road we spotted him off the road. I stopped & walked back about 1/2 a block, there wasn't other another soul within miles so I kept my eyes open. ('Small road'). I taped him & he didn't mind. Came up the road & saw Eielson Air Force Base. The road was next to the runway. I grabbed my Video Camera when I heard them winding up. You have got to see the tape. ('Aurora'). Right now we are in a nice little camp ground right on a lake. We are in Fair Banks Alaska.

Van driving - Tire changing  
Salmon eating - Jim



Camp 11

Fri June 20 7 PM.

Left this morning, drove 375 miles to Arctic Circle. I'll have to check it when I come home, <sup>a guy</sup> ~~he~~ said we were closer to Norway & Sweden than we were to Balto. That's across the North Pole. Very rough road the Dalton Hwy. We were going to <sup>the</sup> end but it's a thousand mile round trip. It would have shook our trailer to pieces. It was too far to drive even for me. The best I ever did was 668 miles. We saw a mother & fawn Moose. But we couldn't get a picture. We came across a road kill that I had to Tape A Genuine Timber wolf about 125 lbs. Tomorrow we are going yard saleing in Fairbank & do ~~shop~~ some shopping 'Wow'. I have to take a day off driving hundreds of miles. Sunday we are going to Denali National Park. Mt McKinley & other stuff  
5200 miles from home  
Sack isn't it

Marty Martin



Sat June 21

Dear Diary. Another Sat Night & I  
 aint got nobody! Thats wrong I got my  
 girl Marge. Only drove 30 miles today. Went  
 to some yard sales but the stuff was cheaper  
 at Sears. Saw another 'Harley' convention.  
 Stopped & talked to the guys, they are very  
 friendly. When you reach Seward you can  
 get away with anything. Taped them.  
 Went to a Salmon Bake. Ate enough  
 for four people! Did more shopping!  
 Got back about 2:45 & we took a nap  
 Trying to learn to relax. Doing laundry  
 right now. Going to Denali tomorrow -  
 'Mount McKinley' over four miles high.  
 Will probably leave for Anchorage  
 Mon. morning. Got a Haircut today  
 a woman cut it. Now I know  
 why they call women Beauticians &  
 men Barbers. I guess it will grow  
 out by the time we get home.

No animals no car problems

Mech - Electrician - Plumber  
 & Jim of all trades &  
 tired too



Camp 14

Sun Night 9:30 June 22

Left this morning for Denali Nat park. Drove 461 miles altogether. Denali was no big deal. Just a 91 mile bus trip. Some people said was OK, some say forget it. It was probably OK because most of the people we saw have never been anywhere. You know I hear you & Bud & Lorraine & Jimmy have camped as long as we have. Blew another tire on van going across old Denali Hg. In all my road miles through all the years I have driven. This was the toughest stretch of all 115 miles over Scrubbing Board roads. Taped it. On the way back we saw three Moose. Moving down to Anchorage Tomorrow 6,703 miles from home

Doug's Idol  
(me)



Camp 12

Monday Night 7:30 June 23

We are in Anchorage. Found a nice little camp ground before the city. Got a late start, had two tires mounted & gassed up. Drove 351 miles. Stopped & taped Mt McKinley. The first time was from about 40 miles away. The next time about 50 miles. The first time we saw it, we drove about 90 miles & we could still see it. It's about as high as from my house to Golden Ring Mall. Four miles high. We got straightened out on our ~~car~~ phone card but that's another story. Going to scope out the city tomorrow & see where the earthquake split the city in 1964

Pep's Brother Jim



Camp 12

June 24 Tues Night 6:00

Before I forget it, on a very clear day you can see Mt. Rainier from anchorage '200 miles'. Today we toured anchorage, taped where the earthquake of '64' split the city. When I went out when 'Pep' was in the service back in '50'. B.S. my way pass the guard. Taped around a little bit. When I went down were the salmon were jumping to fish ladders. Taped them. 'Shopping again'. Bought something you won't believe. You know it must be special for me to give 25 Bucks for it. Tomorrow we are heading south till the road runs out. Sooner or later I'm going to catch something big.

See ya then

(Brother Martin)  
my name till I  
was 16



Wed Night 7:00 June 25

Compsed on a Sound leading to the Pacific ocean. Right now I'm waiting it + looking out our ft window at all the fishing boats coming in. I'm watching for mini. I'm going out tomorrow on the Servant's 40 footer. Its not a head boat, it only takes twelve people. Wouldn't it be something to catch one of those Halibut 10 + eleven hr trips. Took about three hrs to come from Anchorage. Only two very rough miles. Friday we go are going as far south + you can drive. This is a once in a lifetime trip. We'll never post this way again. Its a whole new world, a whole new way of life. In the past two week I havin't met anyone that was born here. Hope I got a fish story tomorrow.

Jim Martin



Camp #13

June 26 9:25 Thurs

(Happy Birthday Sher) Got up this morning. The wind was blowing about twenty five MPH. & the trailer was rocking. Usually we don't care, but this was different. I was booked on a fish trip. Seventy five miles out in the Pacific. But I went to the dock & they said were going. I wasn't worried because I crossed The Atlantic four times & have been out on boats before. Well anyway we left on time, & it's a three hr trip out. Everyone has a two fish limit on Halibut. Just big flounder without the scales. I had my limit in about two hrs. You keep releasing them until you get two keepers. I kept two, a twelve & fifteen pounder. They filet do them on the way back. Three hrs. Eleven hr. trip. Anyway we had a good trip Taped it. Halibut - Sting Rays Cod & Sharks.

Pretty good day!  
a what

James



Thu 27<sup>th</sup>

5:15

Now: overlooking high Buff  
on Bay of high tides. Beluga.

Saw three Caribu all in Velvet

On TV they look like ~~me~~ big  
Deer but they are big as horses.

Finally changed my air filter.

Got off Dusty Roads. Van  
running like a champ. Just  
turned over 117,000 miles  
on Speedo. No tire or trailer

problems. Getting ready to bake  
Potatoes + Pork Chops. Coffee - Cookies

Canned Peaches. Need some candy

Saw a Eagle mounted at Welcome  
center. 8 1/2 feet from tip to tip

People say the earth will be over-  
populated some day have never  
drove the way we go. Sometimes

you can drive for 500 miles &  
never see nothing another soul

except to gas up. Trees by  
the Dillions + Shmillions  
of Dillions. (Whatever)

James Sir



Sat night 8:30

<sup>second</sup>  
This is our ~~third~~ Sat night. We were  
whale watching last night until 11:00. We  
didn't see any, probably because the sun  
was too bright. Getting ready to have  
Angel food cake - Strawberries - Cool Whip.  
Saw two big Eagles today - Taped them  
Went to a Spit today. A neat little  
town. Tomorrow we are going to  
Valdez. That's where the big Oil tanker  
ran aground. Also that's where  
the Alaskan pipe line ends. We  
have about another week here &  
then we are headed towards home.  
It will probably take us about  
three weeks altogether, stopping  
in Minnesota a couple days.  
God knows where we'll be next  
Sat. night. Tomorrow ends  
our third week.

Mr. Jimbo



Sun High 7:25 June 29

Tomorrow night will finish June.  
God knows what will happen  
tomorrow. About  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the way here  
we saw a lot of cars + R.V.<sup>s</sup> pull  
over so we had to stop. They were  
looking up the mountain. About a  
block up the hill we saw five  
Dall Sheep. Taped them. One  
Moose. Only drove 3 1/2 miles  
today. Stopped in little Punky  
Dink camp gr. 4 fire sights.  
One left! The overflo is back  
in the woods. Scared to go there.  
Lions + Tigers + B. You know  
Headed for Valdez tomorrow.  
Only about two hundred miles  
I should be there by lunch time  
Saw a giant Glacier. About  
two miles wide + 100 yards  
thick. Its about 70 degrees here  
+ everybody cant wait until the  
heat wave breaks.

E.  
James



Camp 16

July 1<sup>st</sup>. 5:30 PM. Mon.

Well today was different. We Left  
Valdez a day early. Saw everything there was  
to see in one day. So we decided to head  
for TOC. Right on to Alaska Hwy. Before we  
left we had a Eagle perched over our Camp-  
site. Taped him - four glasses - Climbed  
one mountain for forty minutes in low  
gear. Van popped a few times in the  
high altitude, but run like a champ  
if used four oil filters so far.  
Only drove 250 miles today. No  
problems. Went to a Salmon  
Bake at the campground. We  
are going south to Haines & Scagway  
tomorrow. Will probably drive about  
half way tomorrow. 250 miles.  
Don't want to go too hard. Probably  
be back on Al-Can Hwy on the  
fifth. Can't keep my mind on my  
book. Oh Yea I bought something  
a few days ago. Don't even  
guess

Jimmy Dr.



Tues. Camp 17

July 2 9:40 Night time

We are in Haines Ala. We started off this morn in Alaska then the Yucatan then British Columbia then Alaska. Confusing isn't it. The only strick crossings are into the U.S. I thought we had drove mountains before but today is it. The last hill coming into Haines is nine miles long. We will have to climb it tomorrow.

Every time you gas up its about thirty dollars. Thats about every 125 miles. We drove about 90 miles & hadn't seen another soul, we couldn't believe it because about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile up the road we <sup>saw</sup> something we couldn't believe.

It was two guys along side with their bikes. I had to stop and offered them some water. They were tickled to death to get their canteens filled. They had been purifying stream water with tablets & it didn't taste too good. Sometimes it helps to help other people. Had to slam on brakes or would have wiped out whole family. It looked like a mother duck or Mallard & about 6 or 7 little ones. All in single file strolling across road. We were only passing through but they live here.

James



July 3

9:23 PM

Camp 18

Thurs.

Diary Dear. I only have two dears in my life. One's my Diary. Had to ~~g~~ caulk trailer again, holding up real good. Rolling along about 55 when we both spotted it, a tackle box on the side of the road. No body behind me for miles, had to stop & walk back about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a block. Took it. Ha Ha. I usually say taped it. About ten miles outside of Haynes saw a old Ghost town. Probably early prospectors. Taped it. I keep calling it Whitemarsh. ~~It's~~ Its White Horse. A decent little town had two Gas Stations Eight gas pumps in all, all out of order. If you didn't stop for gas you wouldn't even slow up. Sign said Sorry for inconvenience, have a nice day. Gas gauge laying on Bone. But we handled it

Jim



Thurs.

Camp 19

Bang Bang July 4' 8:05 pm

(Have a little Faith + Trust in what tomorrow brings) part of a song (Because there are such things) I told you god knows what will happen tomorrow. I wonder what I'll be writing tomorrow night. Well today did it. Pulled into this camp ground & before I got the grill lit Marge said the pumps running but no water comes out. I could tell the way it sounded we were loosing pressure somewhere. I walked around the trailer & water was pouring out underneath. I told her to shut it off. To make a long story short when the rear tandem tire blew I didn't know it. It was running like a champ. Well the steel belts were spinning around & cut the water line & the feed to the bathroom. Finally figured it out, so I cut the line under the sink & put a spark plug & hose clamp on. Everything works but the cold water in the bath room. We handled it.

Brother

Water pump ok. Martini  
Kitchen sink ok. Will have to  
run off of holding tank. Can  
fill it any time



July 5 - Sat night - 9:10

Looking out trailer window now  
 + watching sun go down. Going  
 to tape it. Another ok hum boring  
 day. Left camp 7:30 AM, by 10  
 o'clock had seen Dall sheep  
 Stone sheep - caribou - Fox  
 Buffalo - Moose - two Rabbits  
 + a Prairie Dog. Boring Boring  
 Boring. 'Oh yeah' I almost  
 forgot, we developed a bad  
 vibration through the vehicle  
 + I thought it might be the  
 road. My girl co-pilot said  
 bad tire. I got out + checked the  
 road condition. Seemed ok. 'Bad  
 tire - bad tire - I checked the  
 joints - 'Bad tire' 'Bad tire' She  
 was getting on my nerves. I know  
 what it is - the lug nuts loose.  
 Seemed ok 'Bad tire' 'Bad tire'  
 Bugging me ~~now~~ now. Trailer hitch  
 ok. Torsion bars ok. 'B.T. B.T.' I'll  
 just have to shut her up, so I ran  
 my hands around the inside of the  
 tires (yep B.T.) Lucky guess.

Jim M.



Camp 21

July 6 9:30 PM

'You win some, you lose some' ~~at~~ + some are rained out! Not much excitement today. Saw these acres + acres of yellow fields. You know I can see Blue + Yellow Well when I spotted them I had to stop from 60 MPH + tape them. So you know they were brute yellow. Watching 60 mins. on TV right now. Marge swept the trailer out three times already, had to sweep off the bottom of my shoes. The campground is filled with Cottonwood Trees. + the ground looks like snow. Sticks like glue to your cloths + shoes. Taped it. ~~The Van~~ one Van problems. Trailer wall by fridge coming apart, handled it. Developed whine in drive line. Pulled over on flat ~~area~~ area + checked rear. Put in about a qt + a little more. Sounds good now. 'Had gear oil'. Thanks to Jimmy. Drove 10,000 miles so far.

Mr Marty



July 7 9:05

Just went out & checked my baby  
gave her one qt oil. Will put my  
last oil filter on in Minn.  
Six so far. Thirty five lbs in  
all eight tires. Car & Van ok.  
When you found that Highway 4:50  
miles. You're just thankful every  
thing is ok. We came through Customs  
this morning. And this tough looking  
Agent 550 lbs. & 7ft 4. With  
scars all over him slammed me up  
against the wall & stripped search  
me & said any fish or dropped  
antlers. Then he pistol whipped  
me & knocked my teeth out.  
Confiscated of my Caribou Rack  
& fined us 800 dollars. We  
were thinking that when it was  
our turn to move up to the  
window. He asked us about  
ten questions & told us to have  
a nice day. You can imagine  
how relieved we were when  
I could see the Border fading  
in the Rear View mirror.  
That was enough excitement  
for one day.

Love  
James



Camp 23

Tues Night 8:45 July 8

Right now were in the center of North America (Rugby North Dakota) The most interesting thing we saw today was a Wolf running down the road with a whole leg in its mouth. About three feet long, probably a deer or a lamb. The most unusual thing was a road kill. a cow or big calf. Drove 541 miles pulling a trailer. Try it sometime. They ~~says~~ <sup>say</sup> its a 'Long Long way to Tipperary'. Thats about as far across Montana as Belto to Jacksonville Fla. I should be in Fish Trap Lake in Minnesota tomorrow. Called Sorraine yesterday, talked to Kate & told her were we are in Montana. She said are we going through ~~Ala~~ Alabama so we could finish our map.

We are behind a Motel with 'Hook Ups', plus Cable We are watching the All Star game. A little tired now. So have a little Faith & Trust in what Tomorrow Brings!

Jimmy Jr



Camp #24

July 9

9:35 PM

'Fish Trap Lake' Minn. Were probably only about a couple of thousand miles from home. Got my licence - got the boat. I'll be up at six. I hope the pike are still here. Maybe some crappies. Not much excitement today, only driving. The trip is starting to beat us down but we are staying up. We are a very unequal couple, me & Marge. We spend all our time trying to keep each other up. We haven't been gone all that long, but it seems forever. I wouldn't recommend anyone to pull a trailer across the U.S. Through British Columbia - The Yukon - Alaska - The Arctic circle. I'm a driving fool but I've met my match. Plus the Alaska Key is 1400 miles through dust, rocks - detours. Slides. Hot & cold. Good & Bad. Tomorrow I'll probably be up a little

James



July 10 Thurs. 9:15 PM

Fish Trap Lake. Had four Great Northern hooked today, landed one about twenty four inches. Also one rock bass. Tomorrow I'll get them good. We ran down to the store today, a little over 23 miles round trip. This state Minn. has the cheapest food, the cheapest gas on any State - Canada or Alaska Super high test gas \$1.26 a gal Reg Unleaded 1.16. A deer ran through the camp gr. today. Were working our way back to you Babe. Sat morn we will be on our way back, probably four or five days. We left the house to drive the 'Alaska Hwy'. We did that. We ~~wanted~~ wanted to see & drive Alaska. We did that. We wanted to bring something for everybody. We did that. We saw the midnight Sun. Sitterly We saw the Bears - Griz. Brown Black Fox - Wolves - Caribu - White tail & mule deer - Antelope - Moose Buffalo. Erms - Sheep & Deers Sheep Cougar Ravens owls birds. Ostridge Lamas. That's all I can recall right now -  
Seals - Whales Later  
Jimmie



Camp 24  
+3

Fris. Night 9:00 July 11

Fished again, caught one Northern  
siv yellow perch. Took a  
ride after I fished this morning &  
 happened upon a yard sale.  
 Learned a little bit. The school  
 teachers in Minn. get full pay  
 when they retire. And all the  
 adults in Ala. get 20,000 a  
 year from the Government just  
 for living & staying there. It  
 seems they started that when  
 they were building the pipeline  
 And they never stoped. A guy  
 pulled in next to us & I sneaked  
 around & Video taped him setting  
 up. He has a 5th wheel trailer  
 & a F350 Ford Diesel. I missed  
 it when the trailer fell off the  
 wooden blocks. You would  
 swear it was the Rancidolphs  
 Were just about camped out.  
 Its getting harder to find  
 something ~~excitement~~ exciting where  
 ~~you~~ the big deal of the day is some  
 one setting up.

Later  
Jim Martin Sr.  
Exp.



Sat night -

July 12

- is the loneliest loneliest night of the week. But not this time. They are having a sq. dance up at the pavilion. I guess that's their big deal of the day. Well we might go up & check 'em' out. The wind was blowing due North & we were going due south. When an irresistible force met & immoveable object. The gas tank loses. Oh Well its only money. I believe we have encountered ever road condition & weather pattern. Hot - Cold - Rain - sleet - Wind - calm - Hail. Thunder - Lightning - Dusty - mud - rocks - slides - gravel. But my baby's still running like a champ. Stone coming apart, floor sinking. No big deal. We know were headed for (Balmer Md)

Everett



Sun July 17 - 8:00

Drove 505 miles today. I said I wasn't going to do that any more. It's a little too far. They say 'Fools rush in where angels fear to tread'. Been there - Did that. We are at a nice campground in Indiana. I changed my eighth tire. Blew out three - Wore out four & one I'm scared of. We entered Iowa, drove completely through it & half of Indiana. We must have personally seen a million acres of corn. Corn as far as the eye can see on both sides of the road. There are no mountains. I don't know why anyone would live in Iowa. I can't even think of a song with Iowa in it. I never met any one from Iowa.

J. Martin Sr



Camp 27

Mon. night July 14 - 8:18

This was going to be a leisurely day, had time to kill. The whole world was going east on Rt 70 E. I noticed traffic starting to slow up & stop. We sat there about 4 hours & a lady said she just heard over the radio that two tractor trailers were laying on their side. Well that shut down the interstate. She said there was a massive fuel spill. We knew what that meant. So I checked it out & the grass plot was flat enough. You know I made a u turn, don't you. Of course every body else was following suit. To make a long story short. We are in a campground now, & everything's fine. Went down to the fishpond & talked to a guy from Minn. He just came back from Balto. He wanted to know all about Alaska & The Alaska Hwy. Well I schooled him because I drove it. I mean we drove it.

J E Marty



Tues Night 8:25 July 15

It's a thin line between happy + sad. Between coming + going, between a frown + a smile. It only takes a second to change the whole world. We have said hundreds of times.

(What a difference a day makes)

We are in a little campground near Hancock. Twenty four hrs. from now we should be all unpacked + sitting in our recliners. It's mixed emotions we have, 'It's Over'. But it's so good to be going home + see everybody.

~~It seems~~ It seems like we have been gone a year. You know how it is when you spend three days at one campground and four at the next, then you come home. But this is our 28<sup>th</sup>. campground. It's enough to ~~blow~~ blow your mind. I never had anything in my life to beat me down but this trip was close. You can't tell it, you have to live it. If I hadn't of had my copilot, I don't know. But we have learned a lot of respect + things we never knew about each other. Like I said ('It's Over')

Margy's Husband



|       |            |               |   |         |
|-------|------------|---------------|---|---------|
| 4,475 | miles from | Amsterdam     | ✓ | Holland |
| 2,839 | "          | Chicago       | — | Ill.    |
| 4,313 | "          | Copenhagen    | ✓ | Denmark |
| 4,430 | "          | Hamburg       | ✓ | Germany |
| 2,780 | "          | Honolulu      | ✓ |         |
| 4,487 | "          | London        | ✓ | England |
| 4,683 | "          | Paris         | ✓ | France  |
| 2,015 | "          | San Francisco | ✓ | Calif.  |
| 1,445 | "          | Seattle       | — | Wash.   |
| 3,460 | "          | Tokyo         | ✓ | Japan   |
| 5,200 | "          | Baltimore     | ✓ | Md.     |

I drove a 14,000 Mile Round trip  
 (We did)